

R4nger5 Radio

Episode 64



Broadcast time: Thursday 4th
June 2009 @ 9pm

NEWS

Clip-on ties are replacing knotted school ties as schools worry about health and safety, says a survey of school uniform suppliers. Thanks Kevin!

The Schoolwear Association says 10 schools a week in the UK are switching, because of fears of ties getting caught in equipment or strangling pupils. There are also claims that clip-on ties can stop pupils from customising the size of the knots in their ties.

Uniforms are an "instrument of social levelling," says the association. The Schoolwear Association, the trade body for the school uniform industry, has been identifying this year's trends.

The emergence of clip-on ties is part of a growing sensitivity towards health and safety, says the association, along with modifications such as high-visibility trimming on scarves. Clip-on ties take away the risk of pupils having accidents with their knotted ties.

Schools have raised concerns about ties catching fire in science lessons, getting trapped in technology equipment or ties getting caught when pupils were running. Clip-on ties also allow schools to create a more standardised appearance, says the association, stopping pupils from being more creative in how they wear their ties.

"There is little opportunity for pupils to style their tie with short tails and fat knots - as seen in programmes featuring schoolchildren such as Hollyoaks and Grange Hill," says the Schoolwear Association. The growing number of academies is also influencing school uniforms, says the report, promoting the idea of a smart, traditional image.

These schools often make a point of enforcing a strict uniform policy - and the association predicts that this more "corporate look" will filter out to other schools. "These schools are using uniform to make a statement to their pupils and to the wider community that they mean business.

"The Schoolwear Association anticipates that other schools will start following where the academies lead to avoid being left behind." There has also been a return to "houses" in many schools and this is also having an impact on school clothing, with ties and polo shirts being produced in house colours.

Link: <http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/education/8051982.stm>



Peekok sent us this regarding the map of electronic police states:

A report from "CryptoHippie" (don't know anything about this person/group) has created an index to surveillance states, ranked from worst to best. What's especially notable about this report is its concise, intelligent definition of "Electronic Police States:"

The two crucial facts about the information gathered under an electronic police state are these:

1. It is criminal evidence, ready for use in a trial.
2. It is gathered universally and silently, and only later organized for use in prosecutions.

In an Electronic Police State, every surveillance camera recording, every email you send, every Internet site you surf, every post you make, every check you write, every credit card swipe, every cell phone ping... are all criminal evidence, and they are held in searchable databases, for a long, long time. Whoever holds this evidence can make you look very, very bad whenever they care enough to do so. You can be prosecuted whenever they feel like it - the evidence is already in their database.

Perhaps you trust that your ruler will only use his evidence archives to hurt bad people. Will you also trust his successor? Do you also trust all of his subordinates, every government worker and every policeman?

The worst offenders are China, North Korea, Belarus and Russia, followed by the UK, the US, and Singapore.

Link: http://yro.slashdot.org/article.pl?sid=09/05/12/0012255&art_pos=4
 (there will be a link to the PDF in the reccomedia section)

Blind man dragged off plane in Philadelphia, accused of faking Thanks Peekok!

A blind man flying with his wife from Philadelphia to Belgium (where he works as a translator) was arrested and dragged off the plane when he stood up and demanded to know, after two hours, why they were sitting on the tarmac, with no drinks and no news. The arresting officers didn't let him grab his cane, but rather accused him of faking blindness, then characterized his problems leaving the plane as "resisting." He was imprisoned overnight without being told of his charges, read his rights, or given access to counsel -- and he injured himself while there because he didn't have his cane.

Cantisani said he spoke with the captain, who told him the plane was having mechanical problems. He then returned to his seat. Shortly afterward, another passenger made a remark about the crew, prompting three Philadelphia Police officers to escort that man off the plane, Cantisani said.

Then, police tried to remove Cantisani as well, he said..He said the officers yanked Cantisani from his seat and dragged him off the plane, injuring his hand, which was gripping his seat belt . Then they forced him into a wheelchair.

At one point, an officer held him "by the throat," he said..During the struggle with police, Cantisani said, he lost his retractable walking cane, making him unable to navigate.Officers told him they had done the "blind test" and didn't believe he was blind, he said.

Vanore said he knew of no "blind test" administered by police.

Link:

http://www.philly.com/philly/news/20090512_Blind_interpreter_detained_at_Philly_airport_says_he_has_nightmares_from_arrest.html

Killer microchip implant!

It could be the ultimate in political control — but it won't be patented in Germany. German media outlets reported last week that a Saudi inventor's application to patent a "killer chip," as the Swiss tabloids put it, had been denied.

The basic model would consist of a tiny GPS transceiver placed in a capsule and inserted under a person's skin, so that authorities could track him easily.

Model B would have an extra function — a dose of cyanide to remotely kill the wearer without muss or fuss if authorities deemed he'd become a public threat.

The inventor said the chip could be used to track terrorists, criminals, fugitives, illegal immigrants, political dissidents, domestic servants and foreigners overstaying their visas.

"The invention will probably be found to violate paragraph two of the German Patent Law — which does not allow inventions that transgress public order or good morals," German Patent and Trademark Office spokeswoman Stephanie Krüger told the English-language German-news Web site The Local.

Link: <http://www.foxnews.com/story/0,2933,520331,00.html>

Excessive cola consumption can lead to anything from mild weakness to profound muscle paralysis, doctors are warning. Thanks APIPA and Kevin!

This is because the drink can cause blood potassium to drop dangerously low, they report in the International Journal of Clinical Practice. They tell of the curious case of an Australian ostrich farmer who needed emergency care for lung paralysis after drinking 4-10 litres of cola a day. He made a full recovery and was advised to curtail his cola drinking.

Another example included a pregnant woman who regularly consumed up to three litres a day for the last six years and complained of tiredness, appetite loss and persistent vomiting. A heart trace revealed she had an irregular heartbeat, probably caused by her low blood potassium levels. Once she stopped drinking so much cola, she made a full and uneventful recovery. The investigators believe these cases are not atypical and that many people risk problems due to their intake. Manufacturers insist the products are safe when consumed in moderation.

In a commentary, Dr Clifford Packer from the Louis Stokes Cleveland VA Medical Centre in Ohio said: "We have every reason to think that it is not rare. "With aggressive mass marketing, supersizing of soft drinks, and the effects of caffeine tolerance and dependence, there is very little doubt that tens of millions of people in industrialised countries drink at least 2-3 l of cola per day. "It follows that the serum potassium levels of these heavy cola drinkers are dropping, in some cases, to dangerous low levels."

The author of the research paper, Dr Moses Elisaf from the University of Ioannina in Greece, said it appeared that hypokalaemia can be caused by excessive consumption of three of the most common ingredients in cola drinks - glucose, fructose and caffeine. "The individual role of each of these ingredients in the pathophysiology of cola-induced hypokalaemia has not been determined and may vary in different patients.

"However in most of the cases we looked at for our review, caffeine intoxication was thought to play the most important role. "This has been borne out by case studies that focus on other products that contain high levels of caffeine but no glucose or fructose." Despite this, he warned that caffeine free cola products could also cause hypokalaemia because the fructose they contain can cause diarrhoea.

"We believe that further studies are needed to establish how much is too much when it comes to the daily consumption of cola drinks." Excessive consumption has already been linked with obesity, diabetes and tooth and bone problems. A spokeswoman from the British Soft Drinks Association said: "The examples used in this paper by the IJCP are all very extreme cases - moderate consumption of cola drinks is completely safe and people can continue to enjoy such drinks as part of a balanced diet and active lifestyle.

"The soft drinks industry is committed to encouraging responsible consumption of all its products. Nutrition labelling is included on pack so people can make an informed choice about the products they are drinking."

Link: <http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/health/8056028.stm>

Alt Link: <http://uk.news.yahoo.com/18/20090519/th-excess-cola-can-cause-super-sized-mu-0a6016e.html>



Concerned mums and dads set the desired study time on the Study Ball and attach it to their child's ankle. Thanks Kevin!

A red digital display counts down the "Study Time Left" and the device beeps and unlocks when the time expires.

The prison-style device weighs 9.5 kg (21 pounds), making it difficult to move while wearing it. It cannot be locked for more than four hours and comes with a safety key that allows the manacle to be opened at anytime.

The ball and chain costs £75 and is sold online at curiosite.com. The website says: "Quite often, students who are having problems concentrating tend to get up every ten minutes to watch TV, talk on the phone, take something out of the fridge, and a long list of other distractions.

"Were they to dedicate all this wasted time to studying, they would optimise their performance and have more free time available." Study Ball helps you study more and more efficiently."

Designer Emilio Alarcon came up with the idea after a friend likened revision to being in jail.

He said: "Studying can be fun and enriching if you do it once in a while, but no one likes to study for days on end, especially not with an exam date looming overhead.

"The project was born of a conversation I had with a friend who was studying for a civil service exam." He said 'I haven't left the house in a week, this is like being in jail'."

Link: <http://www.telegraph.co.uk/education/educationnews/5343111/Ball-and-chain-to-force-children-to-study.html>

Running shoes harmful say specialists

Thrust enhancers, roll bars, microchips...the \$20 billion running - shoe industry wants us to believe that the latest technologies will cushion every stride. Yet in this extract from his controversial new book, Christopher McDougall claims that injury rates for runners are actually on the rise, that everything we've been told about running shoes is wrong - and that it might even be better to go barefoot...

Every year, anywhere from 65 to 80 per cent of all runners suffer an injury. No matter who you are, no matter how much you run, your odds of getting hurt are the same. At Stanford University, California, two sales representatives from Nike were watching the athletics team practise. Part of their job was to gather feedback from the company's sponsored runners about which shoes they preferred.

Unfortunately, it was proving difficult that day as the runners all seemed to prefer... nothing. 'Didn't we send you enough shoes?' they asked head coach Vin Lananna. They had, he was just refusing to use them. 'I can't prove this,' the well-respected coach told them.

'But I believe that when my runners train barefoot they run faster and suffer fewer injuries.' Nike sponsored the Stanford team as they were the best of the very best. Needless to say, the reps were a little disturbed to hear that Lananna felt the best shoes they had to offer them were not as good as no shoes at all.

When I was told this anecdote it came as no surprise. I'd spent years struggling with a variety of running-related injuries, each time trading up to more expensive shoes, which seemed to make no difference. I'd lost count of the amount of money I'd handed over at shops and sports-injury clinics - eventually ending with advice from my doctor to give it up and 'buy a bike'.

And I wasn't on my own. Every year, anywhere from 65 to 80 per cent of all runners suffer an injury. No matter who you are, no matter how much you run, your odds of getting hurt are the same. It doesn't matter if you're male or female, fast or slow, pudgy or taut as a racehorse, your feet are still in the danger zone.

But why? How come Roger Bannister could charge out of his Oxford lab every day, pound around a hard cinder track in thin leather slippers, not only getting faster but never getting hurt, and set a record before lunch?

Then there's the secretive Tarahumara tribe, the best long-distance runners in the world. These are a people who live in basic conditions in Mexico, often in caves without running water, and run with only strips of old tyre or leather thongs strapped to the bottom of their feet. They are virtually barefoot.

Come race day, the Tarahumara don't train. They don't stretch or warm up. They just stroll to the starting line, laughing and bantering, and then go for it, ultra-running for two full days, sometimes covering over 300 miles, non-stop. For the fun of it. One of them recently came first in a prestigious 100-mile race wearing nothing but a toga and sandals. He was 57 years old.

When it comes to preparation, the Tarahumara prefer more of a Mardi Gras approach. In terms of diet, lifestyle and training technique, they're a track coach's nightmare. They drink like New Year's Eve is a weekly event, tossing back enough corn-based beer and homemade tequila brewed from rattlesnake corpses to floor an army.

Unlike their Western counterparts, the Tarahumara don't replenish their bodies with electrolyte-rich sports drinks. They don't rebuild between workouts with protein bars; in fact, they barely eat any protein at all, living on little more than ground corn spiced up by their favourite delicacy, barbecued

mouse.

How come they're not crippled? I've watched them climb sheer cliffs with no visible support on nothing more than an hour's sleep and a stomach full of pinto beans. It's as if a clerical error entered the stats in the wrong columns. Shouldn't we, the ones with state-of-the-art running shoes and custom-made orthotics, have the zero casualty rate, and the Tarahumara, who run far more, on far rockier terrain, in shoes that barely qualify as shoes, be constantly hospitalised?

The answer, I discovered, will make for unpalatable reading for the \$20 billion trainer-manufacturing industry. It could also change runners' lives forever.

Dr Daniel Lieberman, professor of biological anthropology at Harvard University, has been studying the growing injury crisis in the developed world for some time and has come to a startling conclusion: 'A lot of foot and knee injuries currently plaguing us are caused by people running with shoes that actually make our feet weak, cause us to over-pronate (ankle rotation) and give us knee problems. 'Until 1972, when the modern athletic shoe was invented, people ran in very thin-soled shoes, had strong feet and had a much lower incidence of knee injuries.'

Lieberman also believes that if modern trainers never existed more people would be running. And if more people ran, fewer would be suffering from heart disease, hypertension, blocked arteries, diabetes, and most other deadly ailments of the Western world.

'Humans need aerobic exercise in order to stay healthy,' says Lieberman. 'If there's any magic bullet to make human beings healthy, it's to run.' The modern running shoe was essentially invented by Nike. The company was founded in the Seventies by Phil Knight, a University of Oregon runner, and Bill Bowerman, the University of Oregon coach.

Before these two men got together, the modern running shoe as we know it didn't exist. Runners from Jesse Owens through to Roger Bannister all ran with backs straight, knees bent, feet scratching back under their hips. They had no choice: their only shock absorption came from the compression of their legs and their thick pad of midfoot fat. Thumping down on their heels was not an option. **Despite all their marketing suggestions to the contrary, no manufacturer has ever invented a shoe that is any help at all in injury prevention**

Bowerman didn't actually do much running. He only started to jog a little at the age of 50, after spending time in New Zealand with Arthur Lydiard, the father of fitness running and the most influential distance-running coach of all time. Bowerman came home a convert, and in 1966 wrote a best-selling book whose title introduced a new word and obsession to the fitness-aware public: *Jogging*.

In between writing and coaching, Bowerman came up with the idea of sticking a hunk of rubber under the heel of his pumps. It was, he said, to stop the feet tiring and give them an edge. With the heel raised, he reasoned, gravity would push them forward ahead of the next man. Bowerman called Nike's first shoe the Cortez - after the conquistador who plundered the New World for gold and unleashed a horrific smallpox epidemic.

It is an irony not wasted on his detractors. In essence, he had created a market for a product and then created the product itself. 'It's genius, the kind of stuff they study in business schools,' one commentator said. Bowerman's partner, Knight, set up a manufacturing deal in Japan and was soon selling shoes faster than they could come off the assembly line. 'With the Cortez's cushioning, we were in a monopoly position probably into the Olympic year, 1972,' Knight said.

The rest is history.

Link to full article: <http://www.dailymail.co.uk/home/moslive/article-1170253/The-painful-truth-trainers-Are-expensive-running-shoes-waste-money.html>

Govt fails to honour 2.5m student loan promises Interest rate drops but won't follow deflation Thanks Geddonia!

Last week, an announcement was snuck out meaning millions of graduates with outstanding student loans will soon pay no interest, though the change should've been bigger!

- **Pre-1998 loan rate drops to -0.4%.** From Sept, the 340,000 graduates with these loans will see the rate drop from 3.8% to -0.4% meaning loans'll actually shrink over the year.
- **'98-onward loans dropped to 0%.** The 2.5m with loans who started uni later will see their interest drop from 1.5% to 0% from Sept.
- **It's all about deflation.** The student loan rate changes each year in Sept based on the RPI inflation rate in the prior March. This March's inflation was -0.4% (deflation) so the interest rate should drop to that for ALL loans, yet the government has used a technicality to prevent 98-onward loans matching deflation.
- **This breaks a binding principle.** Student loans have always been set using inflation, so there's no "real cost" to them. While 0% loans sound cheap, it means former students' purchasing power is being eroded, as with deflation (prices dropping) loans costs should be shrinking too.

This is the one thing that wasn't supposed to happen, while currently students with loans of £10,000 will only be £40 a year out of pocket, the worry is once any principle is broken it's very difficult to fix, and deflation's now -1.2%. There's been a [petition at No. 10](#) started to ask the Prime Minister to rethink while there's still time.

Taken from Moneysavingexpert.com newsletter, so no link, but there is a link to the petition:

<http://petitions.number10.gov.uk/Loansofstudents/>

Oompa-Loompa, Spiderman and the Teletubby Tinky Winky held after brawl Thanks Harlequin!

Violence flared at the Welcome Family Holiday Park in coastal resort of Dawlish, Devon, on Sunday during a fancy dress themed evening. Up to 20 inebriated holidaymakers in costumes clashed at around 1am in the camp's clubhouse.

The man dressed as an Oompa-Loompa character from the film Charlie and the Chocolate Factory, is thought to be a 47-year-old father. He and two others were kept in police cells overnight after being questioned on suspicion of violent disorder.

A staff member at the holiday park told The Sun newspaper: "It was rather comical in some ways because of the fancy dress costumes people were wearing. "You don't expect to see Teletubby Tinky Winky and Spiderman in the middle of things like this."

He added: "It was a case of too much booze being knocked back and then something happened which kicked things off." There were no serious injuries.

A Devon and Cornwall police spokesman said alleged culprits were identified "by what they were wearing".

Link: <http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/newtopics/politics/lawandorder/5276310/Oompa-Loompa-Spiderman-and-the-Teletubby-Tinky-Winky-held-after-brawl.html>

Computer chipmaker Intel has been fined a record 1.06bn euros (\$1.45bn; £948m) by the European Commission for anti-competitive practices. Thanks Ghostdog!

It dwarfs the 497m euro fine levied on Microsoft in 2004 for abusing its dominant market position. The Commission found that between 2002 and 2007, Intel had paid manufacturers and a retailer to favour its chips over those of Advanced Micro Devices (AMD).

Intel has announced that it will appeal against the verdict. Intel's senior vice president Bruce Sewell told BBC Five Live that Intel contested the findings and was seeking a chance to "clear our name and exonerate the company." He denied "categorically" that it had paid manufacturers to favour its products over those of rivals. "We would never pay for any kind of obligation," Mr Sewell said. "We provide incentives to customers to buy our products."

He added that there had been no harm to customers and that prices in the microprocessor market had fallen sharply in recent years. The fine was welcomed by AMD, which had lodged complaints in 2000, 2003 and 2006. "The EU decision will shift the power from an abusive monopolist to computer makers, retailers and above all PC consumers," said Giuliano Meroni, AMD's European president.

The Commission said that personal computer makers Acer, Dell, HP, Lenovo and NEC had all been given hidden rebates if they only used Intel chips. It also found that Media Saturn, which owns Europe's biggest consumer electronics retailer Media Markt, had been given money so that it would only sell computers containing Intel chips.

"Intel has harmed millions of European consumers by deliberately acting to keep competitors out of the market for computer chips for many years," said Competition Commissioner Neelie Kroes. "Such a serious and sustained violation of the EU's antitrust rules cannot be tolerated." A Commission spokesman said there was no question of action being taken against the firms who accepted the rebates. "They were not the ones abusing their dominant position in the market," he added.

Last year, Intel made 80.5% of all the microprocessors in PCs, while AMD made 12%. The Commission has also ordered Intel "to cease the illegal practices immediately to the extent that they are still ongoing". In addition to providing rebates to manufacturers that bought almost entirely Intel products, the Commission found that the chipmaker had paid them to postpone or cancel the launch of specific products based on AMD chips.

Ms Kroes joked in her own news conference that Intel would now have to change its latest advertising slogan from "sponsors of tomorrow" to "the sponsor of the European taxpayer". Both Intel and AMD are based in California. Intel has 83,900 staff worldwide and has a market value of \$85.4bn. AMD employs about 11,000 people and has a market value of \$2.6bn.

"Despite its strong defence, Intel is facing a wall of regulatory resistance to its business practices around the world, with antitrust infringement decisions against it now in Japan, Korea, and the EU, while the US authorities are investigating Intel as well," said David Anderson, a lawyer at Berwin Leighton Paisner. "It is a major decision that shows the Commission is serious about curtailing abusive behaviour of dominant companies, especially in the high-tech sector." Technology analysts Gartner said the decision was unlikely to have any significant impact on market conditions.

"The Intel-AMD market share is likely to remain roughly aligned with manufacturing capacity, adjusted for technology capabilities," said Gartner managing vice-president Martin Reynolds. "Intel will pay its fine and carefully inspect its sales relationships to protect against risky influence. AMD does not receive any money from the fine, which accrues to the EU tax budget. And Intel's greatest challenge will remain market growth, not market share."

Link: <http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/business/8047546.stm>

Parasitic flies turn fire ants into zombies **Thanks Kevin!**

It sounds like something out of science fiction: zombie fire ants. But it's all too real. Fire ants wander aimlessly away from the mound. Eventually their heads fall off, and they die.

The strange part is that researchers at the University of Texas at Austin and Texas A&M's AgriLife Extension Service say making "zombies" out of fire ants is a good thing.

"It's a tool — they're not going to completely wipe out the fire ant, but it's a way to control their population," said Scott Ludwig, an integrated pest management specialist with the AgriLife Extension Service in Overton, in East Texas.

The tool is the tiny phorid fly, native to a region of South America where the fire ants in Texas originated. Researchers have learned that there are as many as 23 phorid species along with pathogens that attack fire ants to keep their population and movements under control.

So far, four phorid species have been introduced in Texas.

The flies "dive-bomb" the fire ants and lay eggs. The maggot that hatches inside the ant eats away at the brain, and the ant starts exhibiting what some might say is zombie-like behavior.

"At some point, the ant gets up and starts wandering," said Rob Plowes, a research associate at UT.

The maggot eventually migrates into the ant's head, but Plowes said he "wouldn't use the word 'control' to describe what is happening. There is no brain left in the ant, and the ant just starts wandering aimlessly. This wandering stage goes on for about two weeks."

About a month after the egg is laid, the ant's head falls off and the fly emerges ready to attack any foraging ants away from the mound and lay eggs.

Plowes said fire ants are "very aware" of these tiny flies, and it only takes a few to cause the ants to modify their behavior.

"Just one or two flies can control movement or above-ground activity," Plowes said. "It's kind of like a medieval activity where you're putting a castle under siege."

Researchers began introducing phorid species in Texas in 1999. The first species has traveled all the way from Central and South Texas to the Oklahoma border. This year, UT researchers will add colonies south of the Metroplex at farms and ranches from Stephenville to Overton. It is the fourth species introduced in Texas.

Fire ants cost the Texas economy about \$1 billion annually by damaging circuit breakers and other electrical equipment, according to a Texas A&M study. They can also threaten young calves.

Determining whether the phorid flies will work in Texas will take time, perhaps as long as a decade. "These are very slow acting," Plowes said.

Link: http://news.yahoo.com/s/mcclatchy/20090512/sc_mcclatchy/3231765

Chemicals found in many food, cosmetic and cleaning products pose a real threat to male fertility, a leading scientist has warned. Thanks Ghostdog!

Professor Richard Sharpe, of the Medical Research Council, warned these hormone-disrupting chemicals were "feminising" boys in the womb. He linked them to raising rates of birth defects and testicular cancer and falling sperm counts. Campaigners called for action to address the problem.

They warned that while exposure to a single chemical may cause no harm, the cumulative effect could be profound. Professor Sharpe's report was commissioned by the CHEM Trust, a charity which works to protect humans and wildlife from harmful chemicals.

There is evidence that male reproductive health is deteriorating, with malformations of the penis becoming more common, rates of testicular cancer rising, and sperm counts falling. It is thought that all these conditions - collectively called Testicular Dysgenesis Syndrome (TDS) - are linked to disruption of the male sex hormone testosterone.

Professor Sharpe concludes that exposure to a cocktail of hormone-disrupting chemicals in the environment is likely to be at least partly to blame by blocking the action of testosterone in the womb. His latest report highlights animal studies showing that testosterone-disrupting chemicals can cause TDS-like disorders.

In addition, de-masculinisation effects due to chemical pollutants in the environment has been reported in many species of wildlife. The direct evidence of an effect in humans is so far less compelling - but is beginning to mount.

Professor Sharpe said: "Because it is the summation of effect of hormone-disrupting chemicals that is critical, and the number of such chemicals that humans are exposed to is considerable, this provides the strongest possible incentive to minimise human exposure to all relevant hormone disruptors, especially women planning pregnancy, as it is obvious that the higher the exposure the greater the risk."

New EU chemicals legislation, called REACH (Registration, evaluation, authorisation and restriction of chemicals) puts the onus on the chemical industry to prove that its products are safe. Campaigners say it could be used to reduce exposure to hormone disrupting chemicals.

Elizabeth Salter Green, CHEM Trust director, said; "Chemicals that have been shown to act together to affect male reproductive health should have their risks assessed together. "Currently that is not the case, and unfortunately chemicals are looked at on an individual basis.

"Therefore, government assurances that exposures are too low to have any effect just do not hold water because regulators do not take into account the additive actions of hormone disrupting chemicals. "It is high time that public health policy is based on good science and that regulatory authorities have health protection, rather than industry protection, uppermost in mind."

Ms Green advised pregnant women to keep cosmetic use to a minimum and avoid DIY. A government spokesperson said the report would be studied with interest, and that the risks to health of hormone-disrupting chemicals were regularly reviewed by the Scientific Committee on the Toxicity of Chemicals in Food, Consumer Products and the Environment (COT).

"The Food Standards Agency and the Health Protection Agency are also currently involved in work relevant to this issue. We will continue to consider any new evidence that emerges." A statement from the COT in 2006 concluded there was no clear link between data from animal experiments and trends in humans - but it was an important area for research.

Link: <http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/health/8047230.stm>

(CNN) -- South Carolina authorities have located a 555-pound teenager and his mother, who faces a charge of violating a custody order, police said Thursday. Thanks Kevin!

Alexander Deundray Draper, 14, of Travelers Rest, South Carolina, and his mother, Jerri Althea Gray, were located at about 4:30 p.m. near a laundromat in Baltimore, Maryland, by the Baltimore County Sheriff's Office, said Matt Armstrong, a spokesman for the Greenville County Sheriff's Office in Greenville, South Carolina.

"Draper was checked out by EMS [Emergency Medical Services] personnel and turned over to the Maryland Department of Social Services," Armstrong said.

The South Carolina Department of Social Services will work with its Maryland counterpart to have the boy returned to South Carolina, he told CNN affiliate WYFF.

The mother is being held in a detention center and will be extradited to South Carolina on an outstanding warrant, he said.  [Watch report on finding teen and his mother »](#)

"The understanding was that the individual was of the weight where it was decided by medical authorities that he needed treatment that was not being provided for by his mother," Armstrong said.

Earlier in the day officials said the boy "is possibly at a stage of critical health risk."

Gray was supposed to appear in family court Tuesday with her son and failed to do so, the sheriff's office said. During the family court hearing, the boy was ordered into state custody because of medical neglect, as well as his mother's failure to appear. The Department of Social Services then contacted the sheriff's office, authorities said.

The warrant said Gray was served with papers Monday and told to report to court for a hearing in which the department would seek state custody of Draper. "The defendant has avoided the custody proceeding and has concealed the child," the warrant says.

Travelers Rest is about 10 miles north of [Greenville, South Carolina](#).

Link: <http://edition.cnn.com/2009/CRIME/05/21/sc.missing.boy/index.html>

R4NGER5 NEWS/feedback

Hi V,

Thought this site would be of interest. Lectures on the future by various learned folk.....
<http://www.ted.com/index.php/themes>

Enjoyed the last two shows by the way. Getting better every week!

Raindog.

HALF TIME MUSIC

- Track 1 – Rivet Girl by **Patient Zero** from the album **Schizophrenia**
- Track 2 – **Legend of Zelda theme on a beer bottle** by [Mattias Holmgren](#) <http://www.ocremix.org/remix/OCR01845/> – **Thanks Macavity!**
- Track 3 -**A little Rain** by **Tongue of the Dog** @ www.podsafeaudio.com

DISCUSSION – Supplied by AAPIA

My question to you is: Could we and should we be policing ourselves?

<http://uk.news.yahoo.com/4/20090415/tuk-officer-suspended-over-new-g20-foota- dba1618.html>

Brief summary: A police sergeant filmed hitting out at a woman during the G20 protests has been suspended amid fresh allegations of police brutality during the summit. The officer was seen swiping at the female with the back of his hand before apparently hitting her across the legs with a baton.

In the light of the investigations surrounding how the police handled the G20 protests as well as other failures by the Met ... See this story...

<http://uk.news.yahoo.com/21/20090415/tuk- police-face-rape-probe-assessments- 6323e80.html>(page no longer available)

Brief summary: The UK police have been roundly criticised for insensitivity and hounding of victims in rape cases and this has led to few victims coming forward and fewer convictions.

Should we be taking control of the situation as a society and policing ourselves?

To what extent could this be a possibility and what type of actions could be taken to ensure that justice was served e.g. in situations such as the way the rape allegations and convictions are handled? (see above story)

LINKS

www.rantmedia.ca
www.empowerthyself.com
www.wognetwork.com
www.kevinisageek.org
www.standovermedia.tk
www.stormthewire.tk
www.r4nger5.com
www.r4nger5blog.tk

IRC – **irc.freenode.net room #r4nger5**

<http://www.kokeshforcongress.com/> Bizarre starship troopers type political campaign – **Thanks Avagdu!**

<http://libhotties.com> Libertarian Hotties (NSFW) **Thanks Avagdu!**

RECCOMEDIA

<https://secure.cryptohippie.com/pubs/EPS-2008.pdf> Electronic police state PDF – **thanks to crypto-hippy and Peekok**

Cut the Cubicle Umbilical Cord: The Seven Traits of the Free Man **Thanks Avagdu!**
<http://zenhabits.net/2009/05/cut-the-cubicle-umbilical-cord-the-seven-traitsof-the-free-man/>

The Corrupt Origin of American Central Banking <http://digg.com/d1dLoJ> **Thanks Avagdu!**

here's a reprint of an old book on defending yourself with your trusty walking stick. If you have one of course! **Thanks Raindog!** http://ejmas.com/jnc/jncart_barton-wright_0200.htm

<http://www.ted.com/index.php/themes> TED talks link – **Thanks Raindog!**

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mCPEBM5oI0Q> Path to Freedom presents 'A Homegrown Revolution' A collaboration of selective media clips which feature their urban homestead and farm which focus on the need of radical action -- growing food in the city. **Thanks Avagdu!**

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UANJHikHrTI> Behind the green curtain – environmental concerns being used to imprison citizens - vid – **Thanks Avagdu!**

OUTRO

- Track 1 – **My Distortion** by **Patient Zero** from the album **Schizophrenia**
- Track 2 – More of **Weavers Mindless ramblings** – Episode 3
http://www.archive.org/details/MindlessRambling3_677
- Track 3 – **Me the Saviour** – **Ellis Reed** – www.podsafeaudio.com
- Rant – **Mind Control** by **Sean Kennedy**